RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

IN THIS ISSUE... ACCIDENTS WILL HAPPEN ... THE OLD MASTER SWINDLE ... JUST OFF THE BOAT ... THE HOTEL GYPS ...

O'MALLEY TELLS OF ONE OF HIS MOST EXCITING CASES. UNSCRUPULOUS SCHEMERS DEFRAUDING INSURANCE COMPANIES OUT OF MILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN "ACCIDENTS WILL HAPPEN"
Dear Aunt Ella
Charley.
DR. NEFF EXPOSES THE "POST OFFICE GHOST RACKET"
A HUSBAND AND WIFE TEAM PREY ON HOTEL MANAGERS IN A SHAKE-DOWN RACKET IN... "THE HOTEL GYPS"
FRANK FROLLO
PLUS... MANY EVERY DAY RACKETS TO WHICH YOU MIGHT FALL VICTIM.
IN THIS ISSUE... ALSO SYDNEY RADNER CRUSADES AGAINST CROOKED GAMBLERS IN... "SHAKE WELL BEFORE CHOOSING"

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DR. NEFF... THE ORIGINAL GHOST BREAKER... UNCOVERS THE... SPIRIT POST OFFICE

NOW REMEMBER, MRS. WITHERBY, YOU PLACED YOUR OWN ENVELOPE BETWEEN THESE SLATES BEFORE YOU SEALED THEM. I WANT YOU TO REACH UP AND HOLD THE SLATES YOURSELF, JUST ABOVE YOUR HEAD...
YES, YES, SWAMI DURBAR! EVEN NOW I CAN ALMOST SENSE THE VIBRATION OF THE SPIRITS!
DR. NEFF
EVER HEAR OF THE SPIRIT POST OFFICE? YOU WOULDN'T, UNLESS YOU HAVE THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS READY TO SEND BY MONEY ORDER TO SPOOKLAND... WITH NO RETURN RECEIPT! THIS RACKET... SPECIAL DELIVERY TO THE WORLD BEYOND... IS ONE THAT CROPPED UP AS A RESULT OF WORLD WAR II... SO LET'S START BY SHOWING THE GAME IN ACTUAL OPERATION...

NEVER FOR ONE MOMENT DID THOSE SLATES LEAVE YOUR SIGHT! YET WHEN YOU OPEN THEM, YOU WILL FIND A MESSAGE FROM THE SPIRIT WORLD!
I CAN HARDLY WAIT!

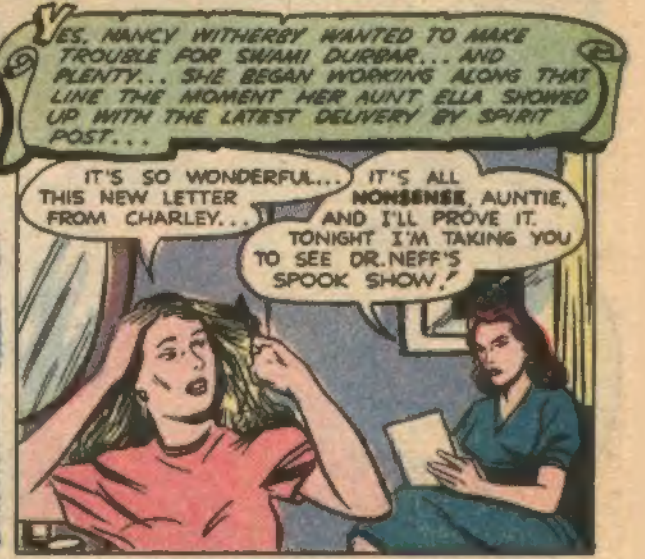
WHY, I PUT A $50 BILL IN THIS ENVELOPE! NOW INSTEAD OF THE MONEY I FIND A MESSAGE FROM SPIRITLAND!
WELL WORTH THE PRICE. READ IT, MRS. WITHERBY!

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

Dear Aunt Ella
We are very happy here in the summer land. Everybody is happy, all the time. Soon I will tell you more about it... Charley.

IT'S CHARLEY'S HANDWRITING, BUT HE SAYS SO LITTLE, SWAMI DURBAR!
PERHAPS IT IS BECAUSE YOU PUT SO LITTLE IN THE ENVELOPE! BRING $100 NEXT TIME, MRS. WITHERBY! NOW GOOD BYE... BISCO WILL SEE YOU OUT.

WHAT A RACKET WE'VE GOT, SWAMI! IT'S A CINCH TO COPY CHARLEY WITHERBY'S WRITING FROM THOSE OLD NOTE BOOKS YOU PICKED UP.
YES, BUT HIS SISTER NANCY ISN'T CONVINCED. SHE MAY GIVE US TROUBLE!


YES, NANCY WITHERBY WANTED TO MAKE TROUBLE FOR SWAMI DURBAR... AND PLENTY... SHE BEGAN WORKING ALONG THAT LINE THE MOMENT HER AUNT ELLA SHOWED UP WITH THE LATEST DELIVERY BY SPIRIT POST...
IT'S SO WONDERFUL... THIS NEW LETTER FROM CHARLEY...
IT'S ALL NONSENSE, AUNTIE, AND I'LL PROVE IT. TONIGHT I'M TAKING YOU TO SEE DR. NEFF'S SPOOK SHOW!

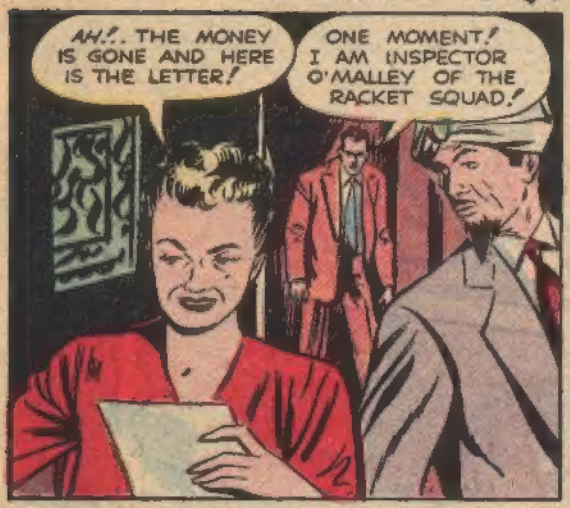
RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

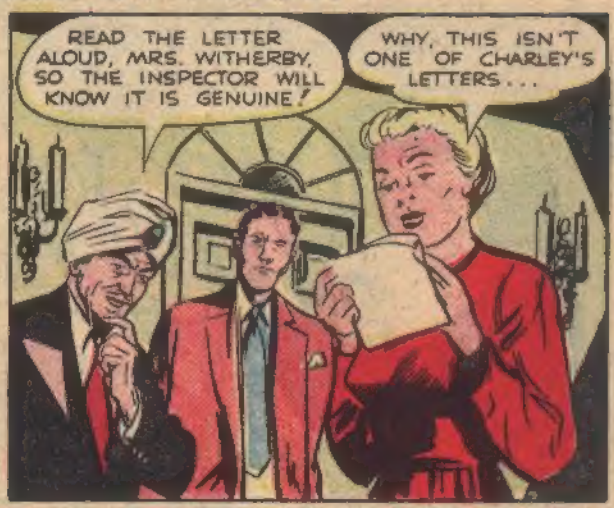
THAT'S IT, DR. NEFF. MY AUNT BELIEVES IN ALL SPOOKS... AND UTTERLY. HOW CAN WE CURE HER?
JUST AGREE WITH HER. INTRODUCE ME TO HER AND I'LL SHOW YOU HOW.
TELL THE SWAMI TO BRING CHARLEY'S LETTERS FROM YOUR ATTIC AND PUT THEM BETWEEN THOSE SLATES. THAT WILL CONVINCE NANCY!
IT SURE WILL!
I'LL PHONE THE SWAMI AT ONCE!
I'LL BE RIGHT OVER, SWAMI DURBAR!
HIKE UP TO OLD LADY WITHERBY'S AND SNEAK CHARLEY'S LETTERS OUT OF THE ATTIC TRUNK. SHE WANTS A SPECIAL SPOOK DELIVERY!
WELL, THERE GOES AUNTIE TO SEE THE SWAMI. WHAT'S OUR NEXT MOVE?
WE'LL HEAD FOR THE HOUSE AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS THERE!
TAXI
THAT MUST BE THE SWAMI'S STOOGE UP IN AUNTIE'S ATTIC ALREADY!
GOOD. SHOW ME THE DOOR WHERE HE WILL LEAVE THE HOUSE.
AH!

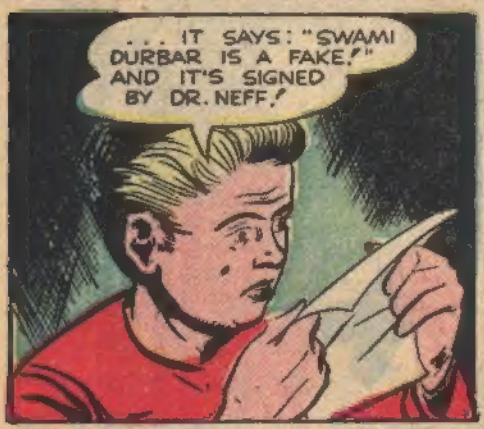
RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

THIS IS THE WAY HE WILL HAVE TO COME. WHAT'S THAT YOU'RE SPRINKLING- RAT EXTERMINATOR?
NO! JUST LUMINOUS POWDER, SO HE WILL LEAVE A TRAIL IN THE DARK.
HERE HE COMES NOW!
GIVE HIM LEEWAY. WE WON'T HAVE ANY TROUBLE FOLLOWING HIM.
SEE! THEY'RE LEADING US STRAIGHT TO WHERE HE BELONGS... AND I CAN GUESS WHERE THAT WILL BE!
SO CAN I! WHY THESE STEPS LEAD UP TO AN APARTMENT BEHIND THE SWAMI'S!
GOOD. I'LL FOLLOW THE TRAIL WHILE YOU GET INSPECTOR O'MALLEY. YOU CAN CALL ON SWAMI DURBAR THE FRONT WAY.
JUST DROP A $100 BILL BETWEEN THE SLATES FOR THIS SPECIAL TWO WAY SERVICE. THEN TIE THE SLATES YOURSELF, MRS. WITHERBY...
... AND I'M SURE THAT THE SPIRITS WILL TRANSPORT ONE OF CHARLEY'S OLD LETTERS DIRECTLY FROM YOUR ATTIC!

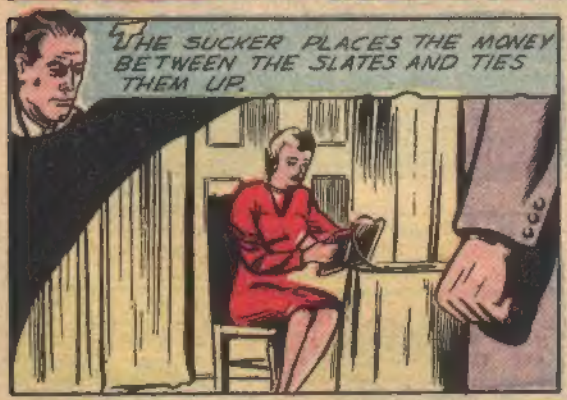
RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

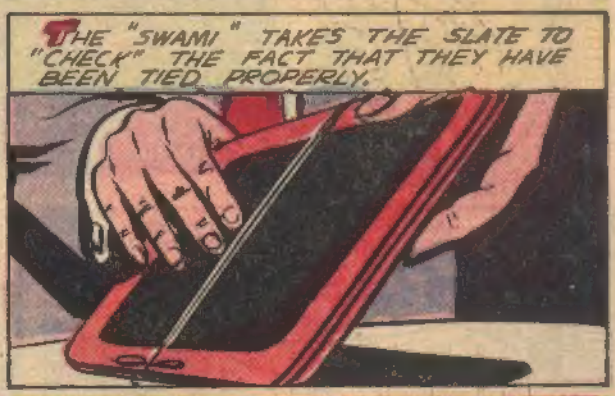


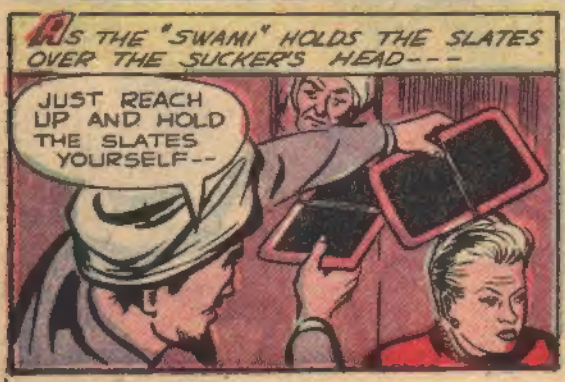




IT WASN'T BISCO- IT WAS NEFF WHO SWITCHED THE SLATES THAT BISCO SWITCHED FOR YOU..
HERE'S HOW THE SWAMI WORKED WITH BISCO TO SWITCH SLATES.







INSPECTOR O'MALLEY GIVES WARNING: *WATCH OUT FOR...*

The HOTEL GYPS

"I AM INSPECTOR J. J. O'MALLEY OF THE RACKET SQUAD AND I AM VERY PLEASED TO BE ADDRESSING THIS CONVENTION OF HOTEL OWNERS AND MANAGERS. TIME AND AGAIN WE HAVE FOUND HOTELS TO BE COOPERATIVE IN UNFOLDING THE LAW..."

"...AND IN RETURN, THE LAW IS ANXIOUS TO HELP HOTEL MEN SOLVE THEIR PROBLEMS. SO I MUST WARN YOU AGAINST A RACKET WHICH SMART HOTEL GYPS ARE WORKING..."

"...WITH FAR MORE SUCCESS THAN THEY DESERVE... ONLY RECENTLY, AT THE HOTEL IMPERIAL..."
I AM ANITA RAYNE. I HAVE RESERVED A SUITE OF ROOMS...
OH, YES, MISS RAYNE. SUITE 608. WE'LL HAVE YOUR BAGS TAKEN UP RIGHT AWAY.

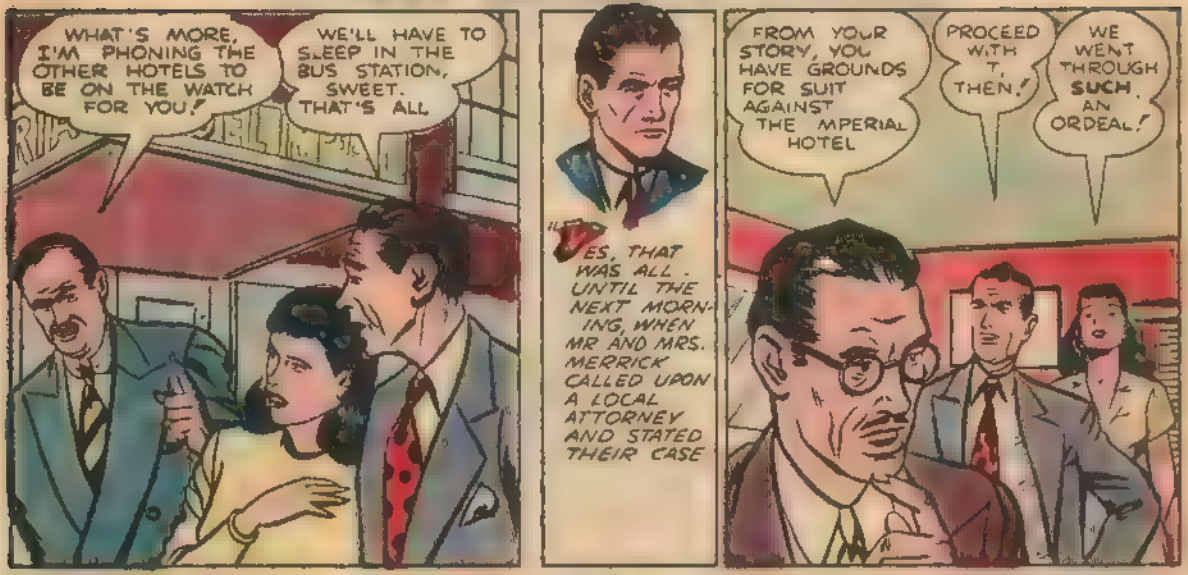
RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

NOW, LET ME SEE. I MUST GIVE YOU A TIP. THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE, TOO... OH, YES... WHEN DOES THE COCKTAIL LOUNGE OPEN?
IT'S OPEN NOW, LADY.
WHATTA YOU KNOW! ALL THAT RITZY DAME COULD SPARE WAS TWO BITS FOR LUGGING THAT FLOCK OF BAGS.
WOW! I FIGURED SHE'D HAND YOU A COUPLE OF BUCKS!
LATER...
MY NAME IS ANITA RAYNE AND I HAVE SUITE 608. IT'S ALL RIGHT FOR ME TO CHARGE WHATEVER I ORDER, ISN'T IT?
CERTAINLY, MISS RAYNE.
THAT DAME IS PUTTING AWAY THE DRINKS PRETTY FAST AND NOW SHE'S GIVING THE GLAD EYE TO THE GUY WHO JUST CAME IN...
I'LL TELL THE HOUSE DETECTIVE.
I...I REALLY THOUGHT YOU WERE SOMEBODY I KNEW. I GUESS... WELL, MAYBE THE LIGHTS ARE BAD IN HERE. I COULDN'T HAVE HAD TOO MANY DRINKS.
NATURALLY NOT. WELL, IT WAS NICE TO MEET YOU, ANYWAY.
YOU DROPPED YOUR GLOVE, LADY...
OH, THANK YOU!
KEEP AN EYE ON HER, JIM. YOU'RE THE HOUSE DETECTIVE, SO IT'S YOUR JOB!

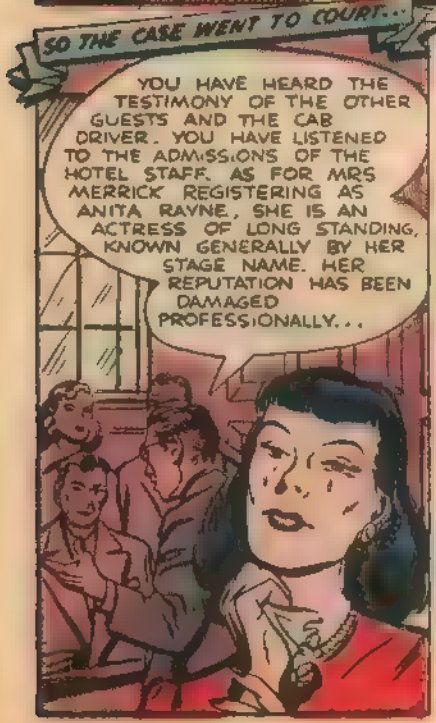
RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

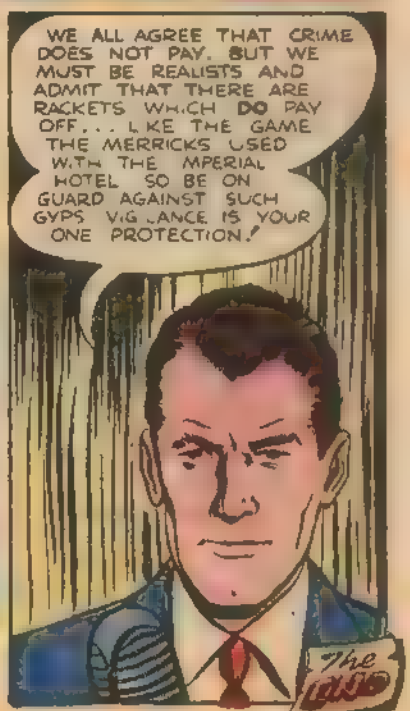
A FEW NIGHTS LATER...
THERE GOES MISS RAYNE UP TO 608. BUT I NEVER SAW THAT GUY BEFORE
LOOKS LIKE HE'S CARRYING A FEW BOTTLES... AND IT SOUNDS LIKE IT, TOO.
CLINK
ANOTHER CALL FROM THE SIXTH FLOOR COMPLAINING OF TOO MUCH NOISE IN 608.
I'LL TAKE CARE OF THAT! IT'S ALL I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR!
WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE, BARGING INTO A QUIET PARTY LIKE THIS?
I'M THE HOTEL DETECTIVE AND THE SIXTY-FOUR DOLLAR QUESTION IS WHO ARE YOU AND WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN THIS LADY'S ROOM?
MY NAME IS ROY MERRICK AND THIS LADY IS MY WIFE SO WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?
I'M GOING TO PUT YOU BOTH OUT OF THIS HOTEL RIGHT NOW!
WE'LL BE QUIET IF YOU LET US STAY...
WE CAN EXPLAIN EVERYTHING...
I KNOW ENOUGH. THIS PHONEY MARRIAGE TALK DOESN'T IMPRESS ME. OUT YOU GO!
WE'LL COMPLAIN TO THE MANAGER ABOUT THIS!
I'M THE MANAGER AND I'M BACKING THE HOUSE DETECTIVE. GET OUT, THE TWO OF YOU!
3

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION


WHAT'S MORE, I'M PHONING THE OTHER HOTELS TO BE ON THE WATCH FOR YOU!
WE'LL HAVE TO SLEEP IN THE BUS STATION, SWEET. THAT'S ALL
"YES, THAT WAS ALL. UNTIL THE NEXT MORNING, WHEN MR AND MRS. MERRICK CALLED UPON A LOCAL ATTORNEY AND STATED THEIR CASE
FROM YOUR STORY, YOU HAVE GROUNDS FOR SUIT AGAINST THE MPERIAL HOTEL
PROCEED WITH T. THEN!
WE WENT THROUGH SUCH AN ORDEAL!

THEY CLAIM WE SUBMITTED MRS MERRICK TO UNDUE HUMILIATION, FRIGHT AND TERROR, RESULTING FROM INSULT AND UNLAWFUL TREATMENT! WHY, WE WILL FIGHT THIS TO THE FINISH! THEY WANT $50,000 DAMAGES!

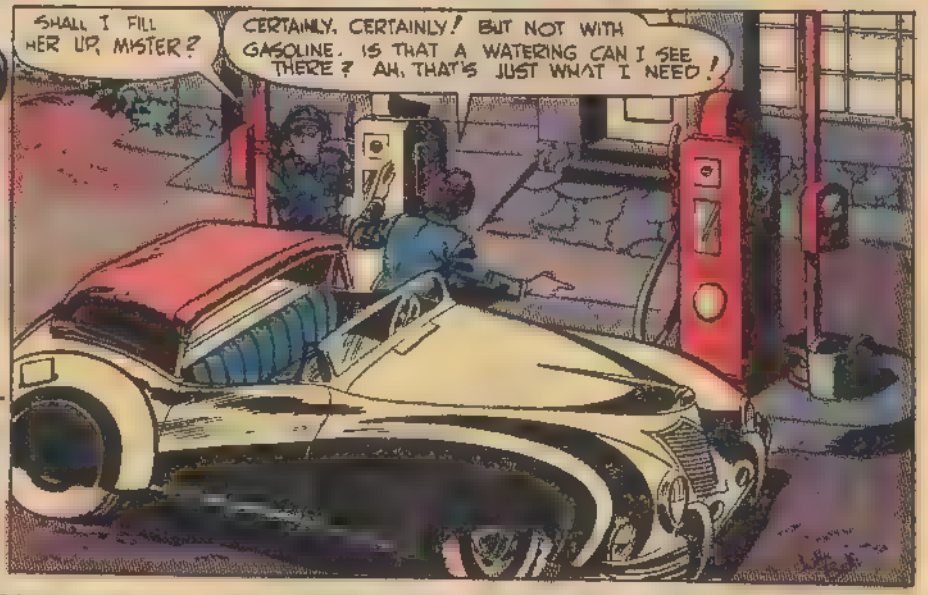

SO THE CASE WENT TO COURT...
YOU HAVE HEARD THE TESTIMONY OF THE OTHER GUESTS AND THE CAB DRIVER. YOU HAVE LISTENED TO THE ADMISSIONS OF THE HOTEL STAFF. AS FOR MRS MERRICK REGISTERING AS ANITA RAYNE, SHE IS AN ACTRESS OF LONG STANDING, KNOWN GENERALLY BY HER STAGE NAME. HER REPUTATION HAS BEEN DAMAGED PROFESSIONALLY...


WE ALL AGREE THAT CRIME DOES NOT PAY. BUT WE MUST BE REALISTS AND ADMIT THAT THERE ARE RACKETS WHICH DO PAY OFF... LIKE THE GAME THE MERRICKS USED WITH THE MPERIAL HOTEL SO BE ON GUARD AGAINST SUCH GYPS VIGILANCE IS YOUR ONE PROTECTION!
The END

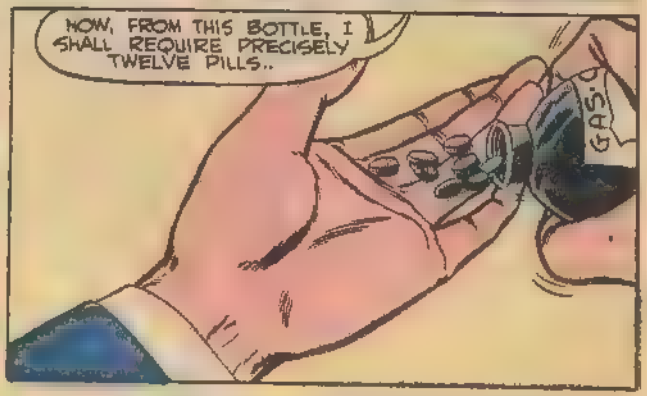
RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

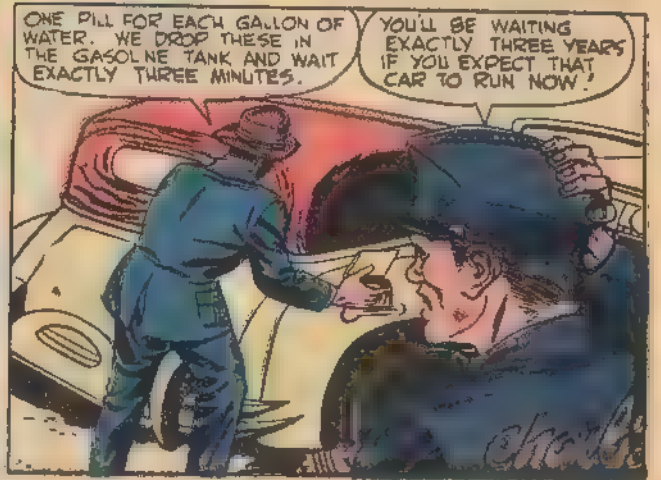
50 MILES ON A DIME

THERE'S NO LIMIT TO WHAT A SMOOTH TALKING GYP ARTIST CAN SELL TO A TRUSTING SUCKER! HERE IS A CASE THAT ACTUALLY HAPPENED TO MARTY DUNN, WHO RAN A SERVICE STATION...

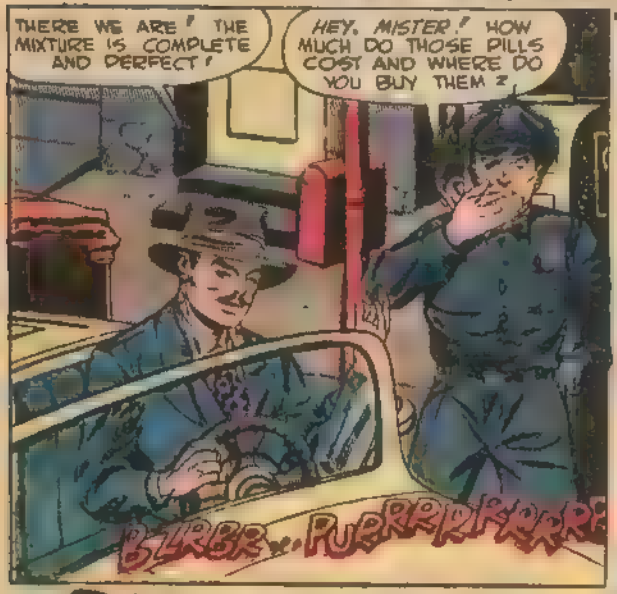

SHALL I FILL HER UP, MISTER?
CERTAINLY, CERTAINLY! BUT NOT WITH GASOLINE. IS THAT A WATERING CAN I SEE THERE? AH, THAT'S JUST WHAT I NEED!

I DON'T LIKE TO ARGUE MISTER, BUT WATER SHOULD GO INTO RADIATORS, NOT GAS TANKS
LET ME SEE! THREE GALLONS TO THE CAN FOUR CANS WILL MAKE TWELVE GALLONS THAT WILL BE ENOUGH

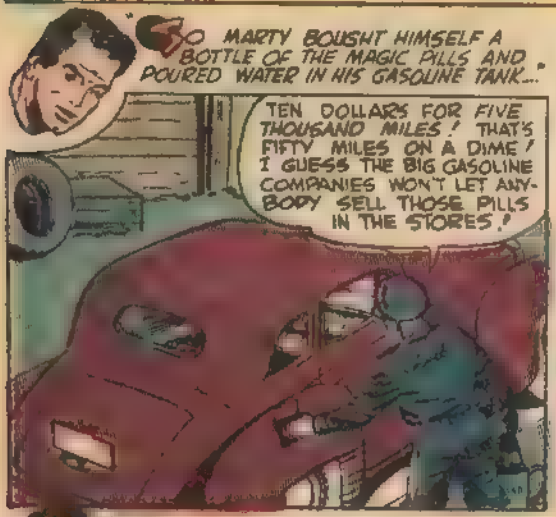


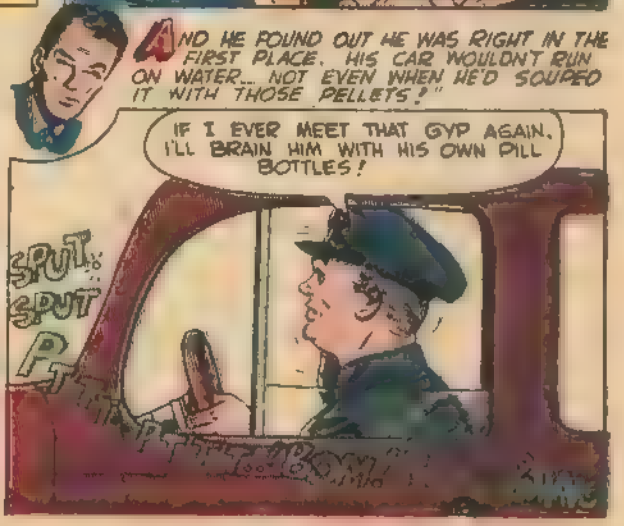

ONE PILL FOR EACH GALLON OF WATER. WE DROP THESE IN THE GASOLINE TANK AND WAIT EXACTLY THREE MINUTES.
YOU'LL BE WAITING EXACTLY THREE YEARS IF YOU EXPECT THAT CAR TO RUN NOW!

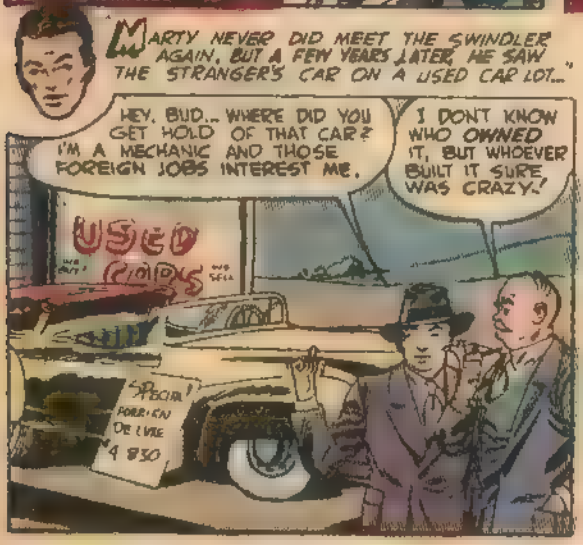
RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

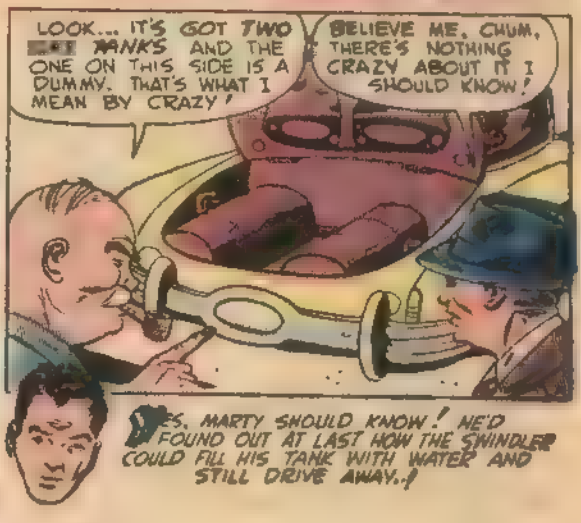

THERE WE ARE! THE MIXTURE IS COMPLETE AND PERFECT!
HEY, MISTER! HOW MUCH DO THOSE PILLS COST AND WHERE DO YOU BUY THEM?
BLRRR... PURRRRRRR!

THEY COST TEN DOLLARS A BOTTLE AND ONE BOTTLE LASTS FOR FIVE THOUSAND MILES. I SELL THEM MYSELF, BUT THE SUPPLY IS SO LIMITED THAT I CAN ONLY ALLOW ONE BOTTLE TO A CUSTOMER...
AND I'M A CUSTOMER! HERE'S YOUR TEN BUCKS, MISTER!


SO MARTY BOUGHT HIMSELF A BOTTLE OF THE MAGIC PILLS AND POURED WATER IN HIS GASOLINE TANK...
TEN DOLLARS FOR FIVE THOUSAND MILES! THAT'S FIFTY MILES ON A DIME! I GUESS THE BIG GASOLINE COMPANIES WON'T LET ANYBODY SELL THOSE PILLS IN THE STORES!


AND HE FOUND OUT HE WAS RIGHT IN THE FIRST PLACE. HIS CAR WOULDN'T RUN ON WATER... NOT EVEN WHEN HE'D SOUPED IT WITH THOSE PELLETS!"
IF I EVER MEET THAT GYP AGAIN, I'LL BRAIN HIM WITH HIS OWN PILL BOTTLES!
SPUT SPUT


MARTY NEVER DID MEET THE SWINDLER AGAIN, BUT A FEW YEARS LATER, HE SAW THE STRANGER'S CAR ON A USED CAR LOT..."
HEY, BUD... WHERE DID YOU GET HOLD OF THAT CAR? I'M A MECHANIC AND THOSE FOREIGN JOBS INTEREST ME.
I DON'T KNOW WHO OWNED IT, BUT WHOEVER BUILT IT SURE WAS CRAZY!
USED CARS
SPECIAL! FOREIGN DE LUXE $ 830


LOOK... IT'S GOT TWO TANKS AND THE ONE ON THIS SIDE IS A DUMMY. THAT'S WHAT I MEAN BY CRAZY!
BELIEVE ME, CHUM, THERE'S NOTHING CRAZY ABOUT IT I SHOULD KNOW!
YES, MARTY SHOULD KNOW! HE'D FOUND OUT AT LAST HOW THE SWINDLER COULD FILL HIS TANK WITH WATER AND STILL DRIVE AWAY..!

RACKET LINGO

Many people are intrigued by what they consider the picturesque slang of the pitchman, carnival grifter and even outright crooks like shortchangers and pickpockets. Some of the phrases coined by such characters are indeed colorful but the term "slang" does not fully define them.

By slang, we mean words which have gained wide popular usage to become part of colloquial speech. They are terms of the moment, the passing by words of our language.

Once the term "Beat it" — still commonly used — was expressed by "Skidoo," now rarely heard and "Twenty-three" which is no longer used at all. Those are typical slang terms.

The expression "pooch" for dog, "mug" for mouth, "map" for face, are examples of slang. Some such words do come from odd and sometimes questionable sources, but they are hardly slang until they are recognized by the public at large.

Prior to that, the term cant is a better definition.

Under the head of cant come technical phrases, largely as the dialect of a special group. Thus the carnival worker who refers to himself as a "carney" and calls his accomplice a "shill" or a "stick" is talking in cant, rather than slang.

In brief, he is using terms not generally known; his cant, in a sense, is slang of a restricted sort. A carney doesn't eat; he "scoffs." The suitcase that he carries is a "kiester." A pitchman's tripod, which he uses to set up his stand, is known as a "tripe" to himself and others of his ilk. The license which a pitchman carries is a "reader" in his lingo.

All such terms are easily picked up by anyone who frequents a carnival or listens to pitchmen chatter. That is why cant phrases frequently creep into more general usage and become regular slang.

The situation deepens when we strike words that are deliberately coined to baffle the chance listener. Here we are delving into underworld lingo and such talk comes under the head of argot, which dates back to the days of the English rogues, who had a language practically all their own.

In modern argot, short change artists refer to their racket as a "hype." A pickpocket "weeds a poke" when he goes through a stolen wallet. If on the run, he is "on the duff."

Once it was common to say that a person was "wise" when he caught onto something. When this became too commonly used, the term "hep" was substituted for "wise." Today, a "hep ghee" is somebody who twenty years ago would have been classed as "wised up."

In developing their argot, the racket crowd follows the usual rules as applied to slang. For instance: Some years ago, wisecrackers used to refer to a wife as "the storm and strife." Soon, this was simply shortened to "the storm." A similar case, in racket parlance, is found in the term "On the earie" which means to listen in. The term "earie" is pronounced like Erie, which in turn suggested Lake Erie, so now the hep ghee who knows his racket lingo uses the expression "On the lake" to mean that someone is overhearing plenty.

When two fast talkers begin to throw in phrases especially designed to confuse the listener, their lingo comes under the head of jargon.

Gypsies have been specialists at jargon, some of their dialect being merely a form of double talk. Thus Hog Latin and other types of jargon are often regarded as imitations of gypsy speech. Of recent years, Hog Latin has found its way into slang. Such an expression as "Scram" has been changed to "Amscray," while "Nix" becomes "Ixnay" — all in accordance with the Hog Latin system of putting the beginning of a word at the end and adding "ay" to it.

A lot of gags have resulted from this, such as the one of an actress who became so addicted to Hog Latin that she began calling her dog Rex by the name of X-ray. But it is

doubtful whether the average man who thinks he knows his Hog Latin would be able to catch it around a carnival lot, where ears are really tuned to that particular jargon.

It's like learning the Morse Code. A person can memorize it and call off letters in dots and dashes. But to walk into a telegraph office and read it right off the wire, requires long experience. You don't hear carnies slinging Hog Latin back and forth as their habitual vernacular. They save it for the right occasions and then insert it as required.

This jargon is particularly deceptive when a carney throws it in with his spiel or pitch. Let's take a case in point:

One season the Great A and Z Shows ran into trouble in the town of Bloomerdale. The police showed up with orders to crack down on all gambling devices. This meant that they were going to "slough the wheels" as carnies put it. Games of chance, such as percentage wheels, electric flashers and similar devices, all were taboo.

Booths that had dart boards, pop-in buckets, cats on a rack and all such were allowed to operate. They were regarded as "science and skill" because the local constabulary didn't know that such games were "gaffed." So as the police came along, knocking off the concessions one by one, they went right by the "skill joints."

Old Pete, a carney of long standing, was running a dart game and he saw the law go by. A dozen booths along was Pete's pal Bill, who operated a Big Six Wheel. Naturally, Bill had to be told and it was up to Pete to tell him.

Here was the way Pete jargoned it:

"Step right up folks and try your skill! Illblay, ohblay! Not a game of chance — pure science and sheer skill — illblay, opscay — and the more you try, the better you get. Science and skill — illblay, ohblay, opscay — the more you try the more you win!

By the time the police reached Bill's joint, the Big Six Wheel was packed and Bill was driving away in his car. He'd noted those insertions in Pete's familiar leather lunged spiel. Out of what the police mistook for a usual pitch, Bill had translated the warning:

"Bill — blow! Bill — cops! Bill — blow — cops!"

To expedite their jargon and further disguise it, carnival workers frequently use odd but meaningless phrases. One sideshow "talker" for example, would constantly refer to somebody or something as coming "From the Isle of M a l a g o o l a" and other odd expressions. He had no trouble putting in more significant statements when he wanted.

Another old hand who ran a refreshment stand delighted in such slogans as "Lemonade — made in the shade — by an old maid" — and "Right off the ice — twice as nice — as Paradise!" Any departure from that familiar singsong would be noted promptly by other carnies, but never by the forces of law and order when they visited the carnival lot intent upon making a pinch.

Not too many years ago, "double talk" became the vogue. Somebody would ask: "What happened to the frammis that I left on the trabbet?" A storekeeper would be stumped by the query: "Do you carry dollands? I need a dozen about size three for an old nikkovar — a brass one."

The odd words, of course, were meaningless, but experts at double talk soon found that they could carry on a conversation between themselves by simply sprinkling it with double talk that they personally ignored but which confused the listener immensely.

The next step was to coin expressions that sounded like double talk words, but had a definite meaning. So the lingo of today is really full of them.

For example, the word "gullion" which might mean anything to the chance listener, signifies "jewelry" to those whose specialty is stealing it. When a "fix" has been arranged so that racketeers can move into a territory, the word is passed that the "alzo" is set. Jumping to the other extreme of the alphabet, the term "zex" is used as a warning against some slip in plans.

In the higher brackets of the rackets, a "shed" is the term for a railroad station, a "scatter" means a saloon, a "taw" is a bankroll, a "mark" is a sucker and a "sting" is to take his money, which becomes a "touch" or "score" after it has been taken. Money itself is known under a variety of terms from "ridge" denoting small change to "coarse ones" which are the big bills used to make up a huge bankroll which will impress a sucker who has been ripened for a confidence game.

Such samples of the con man's lingo show plainly that experts in those rackets can tip each other off to certain facts within actual earshot of their victims.

As for the games themselves, they have names for those too. Every swindle has its trade title, so to speak. Such terms as the "flop," the "flue," the "pigeon," the "spud" or the "wipe" may mean anything to the average chump except what they really signify: Games that are craftily designed to part him from his money.

Yes, the ways and wiles of the racketeers are many, but their lingo is even more varied than their methods.

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

THE CATCH WORDS 'JUST OFF THE BOAT' HAVE LONG BEEN USED AS A SLOGAN IN THE SALE OF SMUGGLED GOODS. NOW IT HAS BECOME A RACKET, SO WATCH OUT FOR **ANYTHING** THAT IS ...

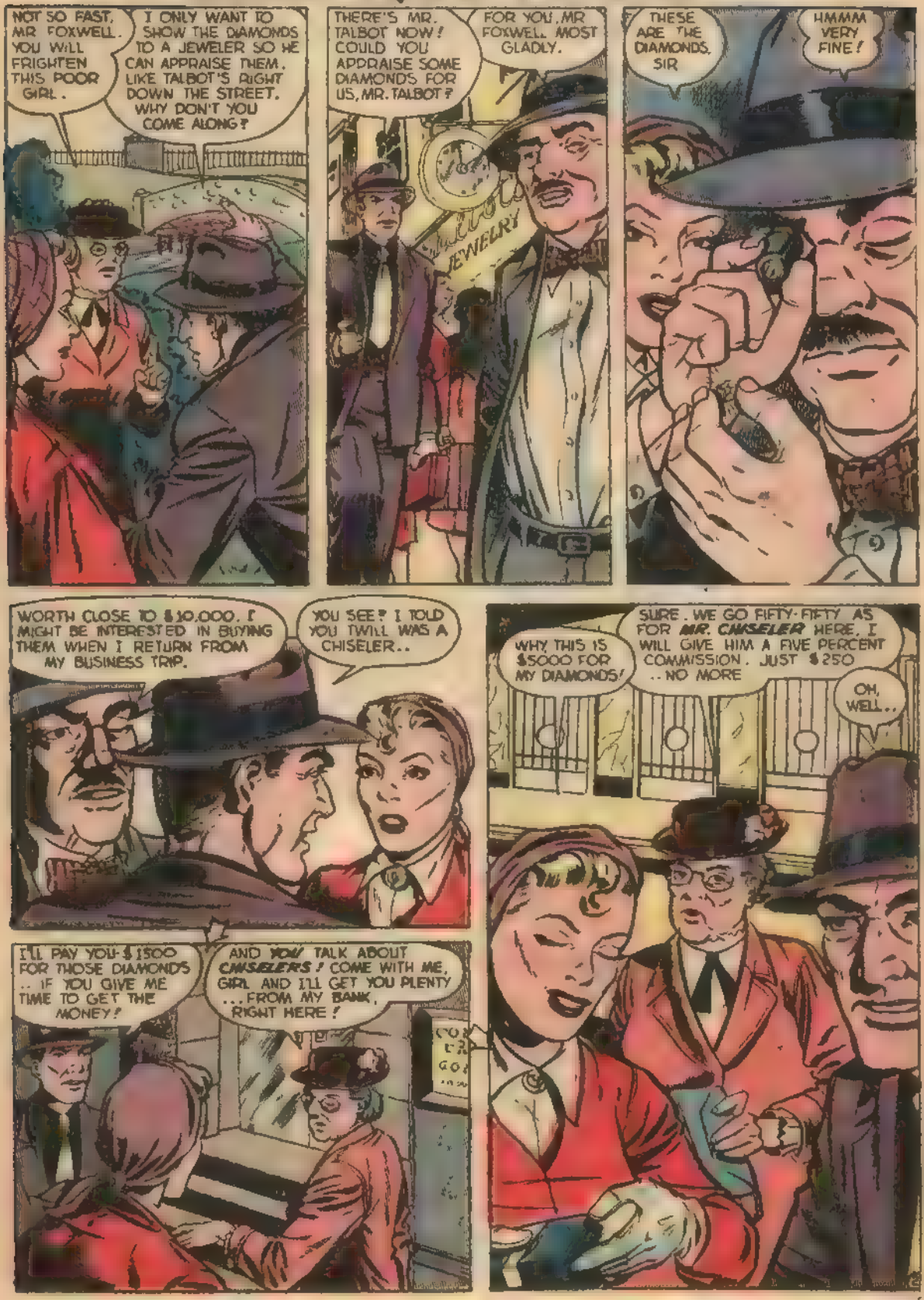
JUST OFF THE BOAT

LADY, YOU PLEASE HELP ME? I JUST COME OFF THE BOAT. I LOOK FOR A MAN THEY CALL MAX TWILL...
I COME TO THIS PARK EVERY DAY, BUT I NEVER HEARD OF MAX TWILL. MAYBE IF YOU TELL ME WHAT HE LOOKS LIKE, I CAN POINT HIM OUT!
DICK GIORDANO

PARDON ME. BUT DID YOU MENTION MAX TWILL?
YOU ARE MAY TWILL? I AM SO, SO GLAD! HERE ARE THE DIAMONDS I BRING ON THE BOAT. NOW YOU GIVE ME THE $500

NO, I'M NOT MAX TWILL. MY NAME IS JAMES FOXWELL. BUT I KNOW TWILL, THE CHEAP CHISELER.. IF HE WILL GIVE YOU $500 FOR THOSE DIAMONDS, I'LL GET YOU $1000!
I MUST HAVE MONEY BEFORE I GIVE YOU DIAMONDS!

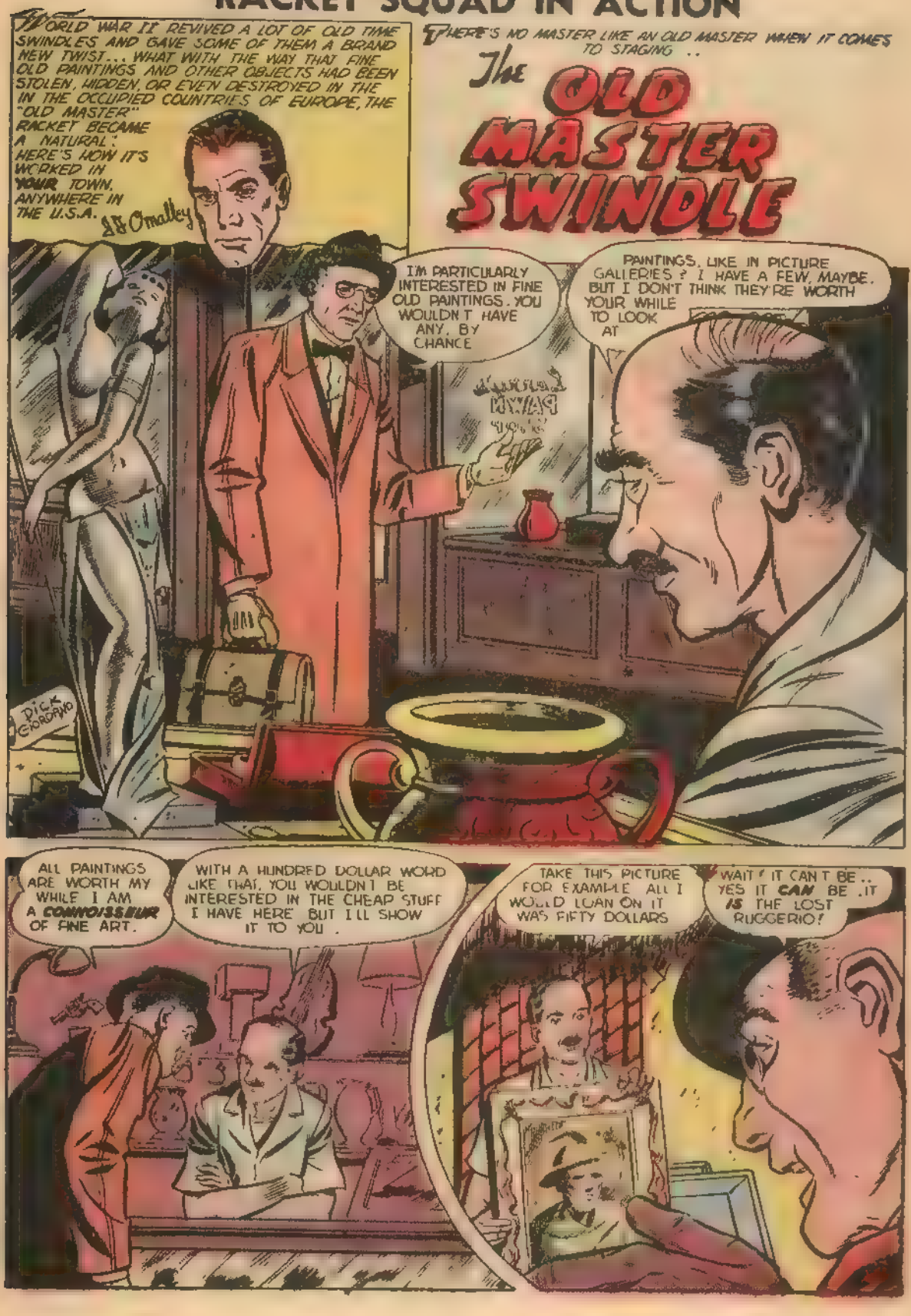
RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION


NOT SO FAST, MR FOXWELL. YOU WILL FRIGHTEN THIS POOR GIRL.
I ONLY WANT TO SHOW THE DIAMONDS TO A JEWELER SO HE CAN APPRAISE THEM. LIKE TALBOT'S RIGHT DOWN THE STREET. WHY DON'T YOU COME ALONG?
THERE'S MR. TALBOT NOW! COULD YOU APPRAISE SOME DIAMONDS FOR US, MR. TALBOT?
FOR YOU, MR FOXWELL MOST GLADLY.
JEWELRY
THESE ARE THE DIAMONDS, SIR
HMMM VERY FINE!
WORTH CLOSE TO $10,000. I MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN BUYING THEM WHEN I RETURN FROM MY BUSINESS TRIP.
YOU SEE? I TOLD YOU TWILL WAS A CHISELER..
I'LL PAY YOU $1500 FOR THOSE DIAMONDS .. IF YOU GIVE ME TIME TO GET THE MONEY!
AND YOU TALK ABOUT CHISELERS! COME WITH ME, GIRL AND I'LL GET YOU PLENTY ...FROM MY BANK, RIGHT HERE!
WHY THIS IS $5000 FOR MY DIAMONDS!
SURE. WE GO FIFTY-FIFTY AS FOR MR. CHISELER HERE. I WILL GIVE HIM A FIVE PERCENT COMMISSION. JUST $250 .. NO MORE
OH, WELL..

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

"MRS. DOTHA COULD HARDLY WAIT TO CASH IN ON HER BIG BUY... BUT SHE DECIDED TO SHOW THE DIAMONDS TO HER HUSBAND FIRST..."
LOOK, ADOLPH! FOR HALF PRICE I GET THESE DIAMONDS THAT TALBOT, THE JEWELER, SAYS ARE WORTH $10,000.
TALBOT THE JEWELER! HE'S BEEN DEAD A YEAR! PUT ON YOUR COAT, AUGUSTA, AND COME WITH ME!
"SOON, DOTHA AND HIS WIFE WERE IN MY OFFICE, GIVING ME THE DETAILS OF THE GYP GAME..."
ONE WAS NAMED FOXWELL AND THE MAN CALLED TALBOT HAD A BLINK IN HIS EYE.
JIM FOXWELL AND BLINK CADY! THEY WORK WITH A GIRL NAMED NIKKI ZERN. I'LL HANDLE THIS, MRS. DOTHA.
"I PUT MY BEST OPERATIVES, MARY QUIGLEY AND STEVE PRYOR, ON THE JOB... THEY MADE THE ROUNDS OF THE PARKS..."
WELL, WELL! IF IT ISN'T NIKKI ZERN, JUST OFF THE BOAT!
I'LL HANDLE THIS LADY COP! BEAT IT, NIKKI, AND TELL BLINK TO LAM!
HELLO, NIKKI, I THOUGHT YOU'D BE COMING ALONG. REMEMBER ME..STEVE PRYOR.. OF THE RACKET SQUAD?
I...I GIVE UP!
LATER...
WE'VE LOCKED UP FOXWELL AND NIKKI NOW WE'LL HANDLE YOUR CASE, BLINK.
IF THIS DAME ACCUSES ME, I'LL HAVE HER PINCHED FOR BUYING SMUGGLED DIAMONDS!
BUT THESE AREN'T DIAMONDS AND THEY WEREN'T SMUGGLED. TAKE HIM AWAY, STEVE
COME ON, BLINK. YOU'RE ONE CON MAN WHO BELIEVED HIS OWN LIES!
THE END

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION


WORLD WAR II REVIVED A LOT OF OLD TIME SWINDLES AND GAVE SOME OF THEM A BRAND NEW TWIST... WHAT WITH THE WAY THAT FINE OLD PAINTINGS AND OTHER OBJECTS HAD BEEN STOLEN, HIDDEN, OR EVEN DESTROYED IN THE IN THE OCCUPIED COUNTRIES OF EUROPE, THE "OLD MASTER" RACKET BECAME A "NATURAL". HERE'S HOW IT'S WORKED IN YOUR TOWN, ANYWHERE IN THE U.S.A.
J.B. O'malley
THERE'S NO MASTER LIKE AN OLD MASTER WHEN IT COMES TO STAGING ..
The OLD MASTER SWINDLE
I'M PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN FINE OLD PAINTINGS. YOU WOULDN'T HAVE ANY, BY CHANCE
PAINTINGS, LIKE IN PICTURE GALLERIES? I HAVE A FEW, MAYBE. BUT I DON'T THINK THEY'RE WORTH YOUR WHILE TO LOOK AT
DICK GIORDANO
ALL PAINTINGS ARE WORTH MY WHILE I AM A CONNOISSEUR OF FINE ART.
WITH A HUNDRED DOLLAR WORD LIKE THAT, YOU WOULDN'T BE INTERESTED IN THE CHEAP STUFF I HAVE HERE BUT I'LL SHOW IT TO YOU .
TAKE THIS PICTURE FOR EXAMPLE. ALL I WOULD LOAN ON IT WAS FIFTY DOLLARS
WAIT! IT CAN'T BE.. YES IT CAN BE .IT IS THE LOST RUGGERIO!

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

WE HAVE BEEN LOOKING HIGH AND LOW FOR IT EVER SINCE IT DISAPPEARED FROM FLORENCE IN ITALY I AM PREPARED TO BUY IT THIS MOMENT.
BUT WAIT MISTER. IT'S BEEN PLEDGED FOR FIFTY BUCKS!
I SHALL NOT BARGAIN WITH YOU. OUR PRICE IS FIXED AT $7500 FOR THIS PAINTING. HERE IS MY CARD.. AND YOU CAN REACH ME AT THE HOTEL VENDOME UNTIL TOMORROW NOON GOOD DAY SIR
H. Jerome Dudley
Metro Art Museum
A FLAT OFFER OF $7500! LET'S SEE WHO HOCKED THAT PAINTING! HERE IT IS, A WEEK AGO.. ROY WALTON.. 3516 GROTON TERRACE! I'VE GOT TO TALK TO THAT GUY, QUICK!
SORRY.. BUT NO TELEPHONE IS LISTED UNDER ROY WALTON .. NOR AT 3516 GROTON TERRACE.
OH, ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT.
HELLO, LARRY! FIRST TIME I EVER KNEW YOU TO WANT A CAB IN A HURRY! FIRST TIME IN FACT, YOU EVER WANTED A CAB AT ALL!
FORGET THE WISE CRACKS, SPEEDY, AND GET ME OUT TO 3516 GROTON!
REMEMBER ME, MR WALTON? I'VE GOT SOMETHING IMPORTANT TO TELL YOU!
YOU'RE LARRY, WHO RUNS THE HOCK SHOP! DON'T TELL ME YOUR DUMP BURNED DOWN MY WIFE WOULD NEVER FORGIVE ME!

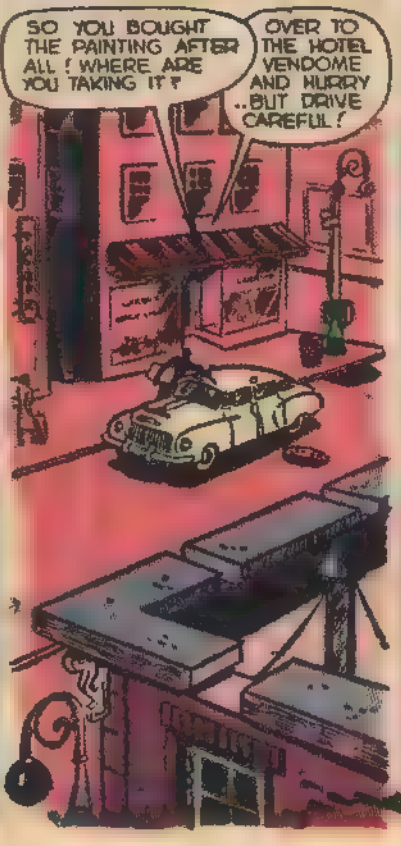
RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

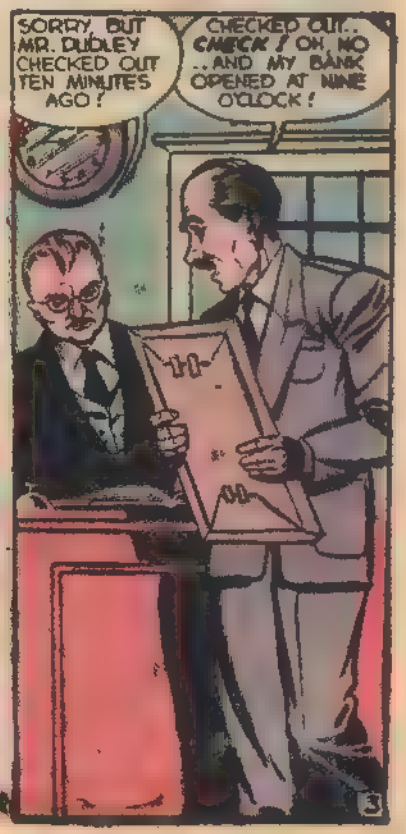
SHE THINKS THE WORLD OF THAT PAINTING AND IF ANYTHING HAPPENED TO IT ..
NOW, LISTEN MR. WALTON. JUST IN CASE SOMETHING HAPPEN TO IT, SUPPOSE I GIVE YOU $500 FOR IT RIGHT NOW!
SO!

NOT FOR $500 WOULD I SELL THAT PAINTING.. NOT EVEN FOR $2500! IT HAS A SENTIMENTAL VALUE WE BOUGHT IT ON OUR HONEY-MOON IN ITALY. REMEMBER?
WHAT GOOD IS SENTI-MENT, BERNICE. WHEN WE'RE BROKE?

I HAVEN'T EVEN FIFTY BUCKS TO GET THE PICTURE OUT OF HOCK ...AND SHE WANTS $2500
THAT'S WHAT I'LL GIVE YOU, MR. WALTON, THE FULL $2500.
NO, NO.. DON'T SELL IT...

LARRY WENT BACK TO HIS PAWN SHOP AND WAITED UNTIL THE NEXT MORNING, CONFIDENT OF RESULTS .SURE ENOUGH, AT QUARTER OF NINE, WHO SHOWED UP BUT ROY WALTON ..





RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

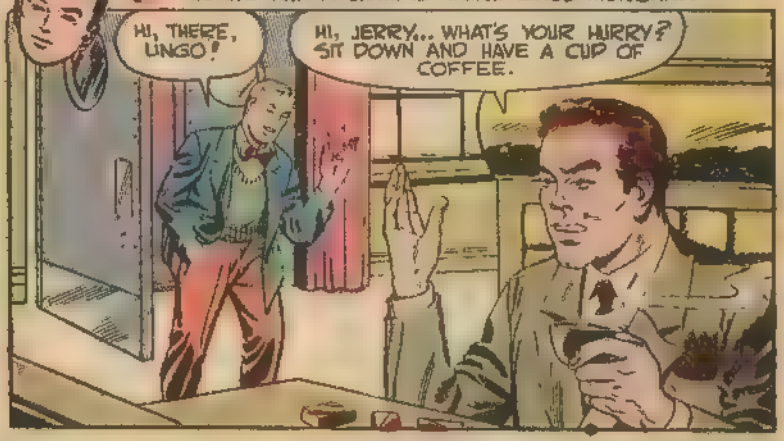
GET ME TO THE MUTUAL TRUST COMPANY RIGHT AWAY, SPEEDY . AND WAIT THERE UNTIL I COME OUT!
WHY, YES, WE CASHED YOUR CHECK AT NINE O'CLOCK THAT'S WHEN MR WALTON CAME IN WITH IT.
MY NEXT STOP NOW IS POLICE HEAD QUARTERS!
THERE IT IS, INSPECTOR... AND DON'T TELL ME IT'S ONLY WORTH FIFTY BUCKS!
I ONLY KNOW THAT WE STILL HAVE A CHANCE TO CATCH THOSE SWINDLERS IF WE HURRY SO LET'S GO!
WE'VE HAD OTHER COMPLAINTS ABOUT THIS GANG AND THEY'RE THE SORT WHO WOULD TRAVEL FAST AND FAR SO THIS IS THE LIKELY PLACE TO FIND THEM!
MUNICIPAL AIRPORT
THAT'S THE BUNCH!
WELL, WELL... SO DUDLEY AND WALTON ARE CHUMS! THAT'S GOING TO TAKE SOME EXPLAINING!
I TOLD YOU DOPES TO SPLIT UP!
YES, THE "OLD MASTER" WAS A FAKE LIKE THE CROOKS WHO PEDDLED IT! BUT LARRY WAS LUCKY TO GET HIS MONEY BACK. YOU SEE ME WAS GREEDY TOO, ANXIOUS TO MAKE A KILLING AT SOMEBODY ELSE'S EXPENSE... AND THOSE ARE THE SUCKERS THAT SWINDLERS TAKE THE EASIEST!
THE END

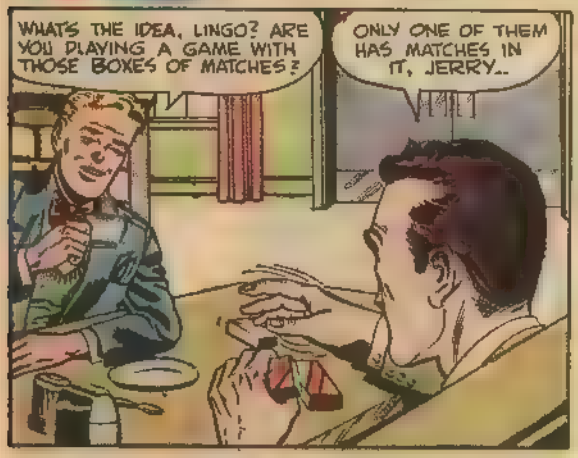
RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

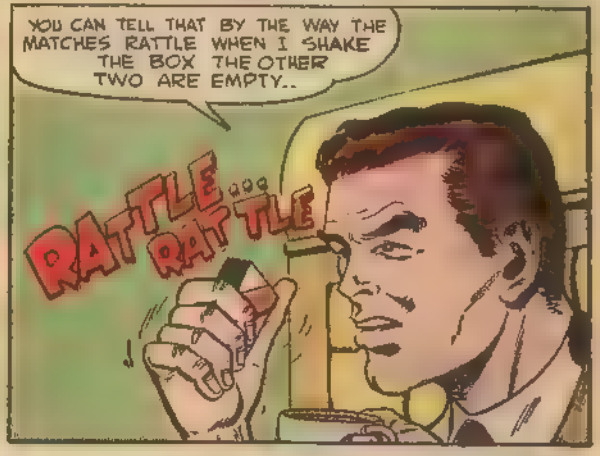
SHAKE WELL BEFORE CHOOSING

MY NAME IS SIDNEY RADNER AND I TOUR THE COUNTRY EXPOSING THE METHODS OF CROOKED GAMBLERS.. NATURALLY, YOU MAY FIND THESE CHEATS AT CARD TABLES OR IN CRAP GAMES... BUT THEY ALSO SPECIALIZE IN TRICKY SWINDLES THAT LOOK INNOCENT ENOUGH UNTIL YOU LOSE YOUR MONEY!

AS A GOOD EXAMPLE, TAKE THE "MATCH BOX GAME"... A FAVORITE WITH A SHARPIE NAMED LINGO MORGAN..







AND AFTER I MIX THEM AROUND A LITTLE, YOUR JOB IS TO POINT OUT THE BOX WITH THE MATCHES IN IT!
THAT'S EASY I'LL BET YOU FIVE BUCKS THAT IT'S RIGHT THERE!

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

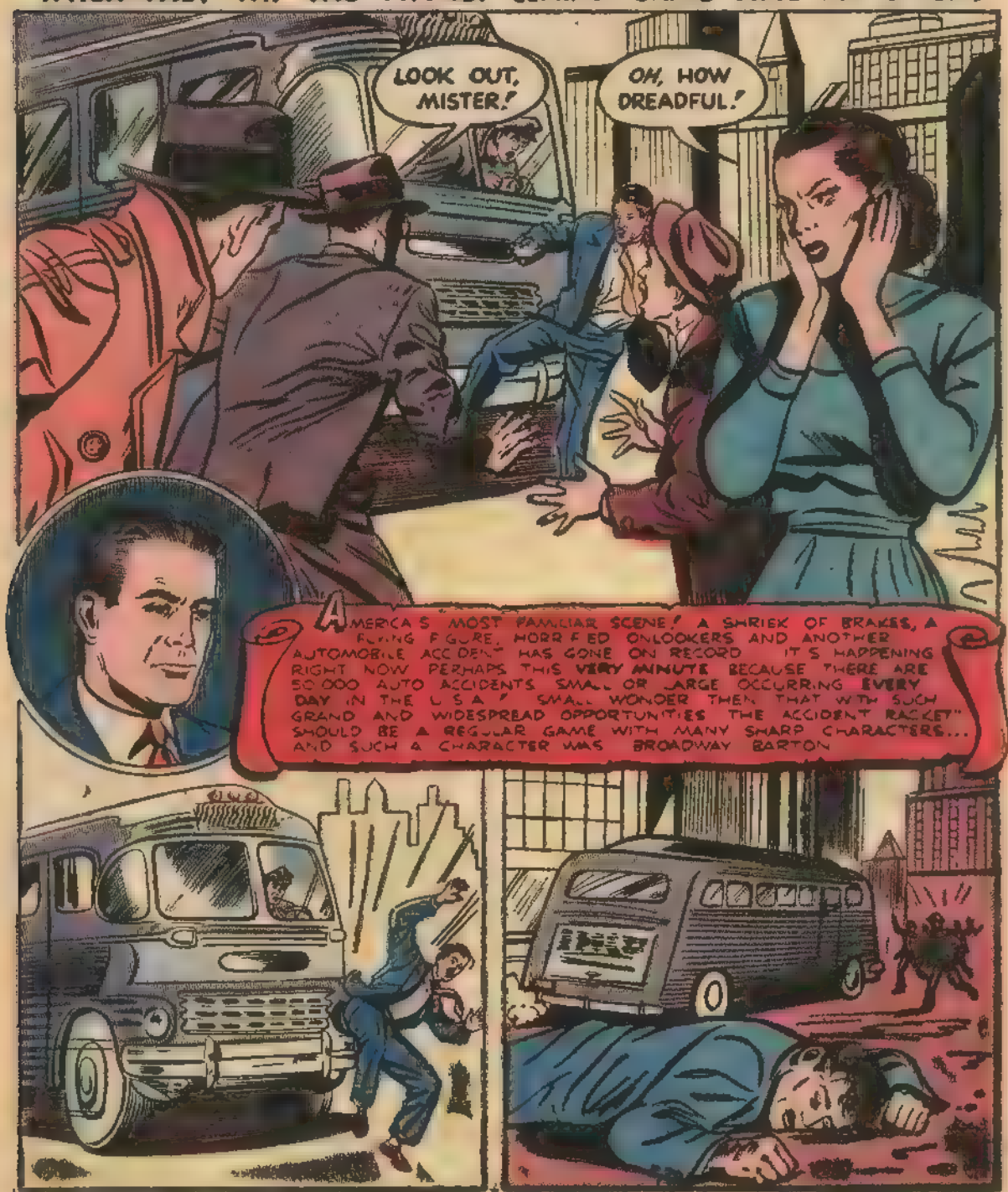
THAT'S IT, LINGO... I HEARD THE MATCHES RATTLE AS YOU LAID IT DOWN..
OPEN IT YOURSELF, JERRY!
... AND PAY ME ANOTHER FIVE!
SAY... HOW DID THAT HAPPEN?
"YES, THAT'S WHAT THEY ALL ASK' HOW DID IT HAPPEN? NOBODY HAS A CHANCE WHEN LINGO WORKS THE MATCH BOX GAME WHY NOT? BECAUSE ALL THREE MATCH BOXES ARE EMPTY ALL ALONG. YOU THINK THAT ONE IS FULL OF MATCHES WHEN THE SHARPIE SHAKES IT WITH HIS RIGHT HAND..."
"BECAUSE IF HE HAD HIS JACKET OFF YOU WOULD SEE A FILLED MATCH BOX HELD TO HIS ARM BY A RUBBER STRAP..."
"AND THOSE ARE THE MATCHES YOU HEAR RATTLE WHEN AN EMPTY BOX IS SHAKEN!"
RATTLE
RATTLE
THE END

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

EVEN THE SMARTEST CROOKS CAN LEARN THAT

ACCIDENTS WILL HAPPEN

WHEN THEY TRY THE "PHONEY CLAIM" GAME ONCE TOO OFTEN!

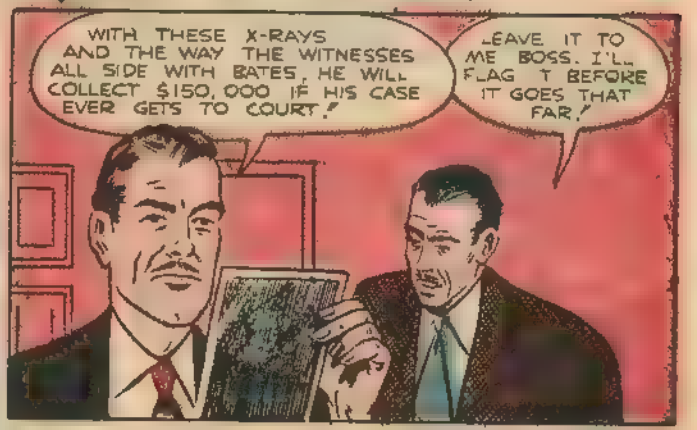

LOOK OUT, MISTER!
OH, HOW DREADFUL!
AMERICA'S MOST FAMILIAR SCENE! A SHRIEK OF BRAKES, A RUNNING FIGURE, HORRIFIED ONLOOKERS AND ANOTHER AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT HAS GONE ON RECORD IT'S HAPPENING RIGHT NOW PERHAPS THIS VERY MINUTE BECAUSE THERE ARE 50,000 AUTO ACCIDENTS SMALL OR LARGE OCCURRING EVERY DAY IN THE U.S.A. SMALL WONDER THEN THAT WITH SUCH GRAND AND WIDESPREAD OPPORTUNITIES THE ACCIDENT RACKET" SHOULD BE A REGULAR GAME WITH MANY SHARP CHARACTERS... AND SUCH A CHARACTER WAS BROADWAY BARTON

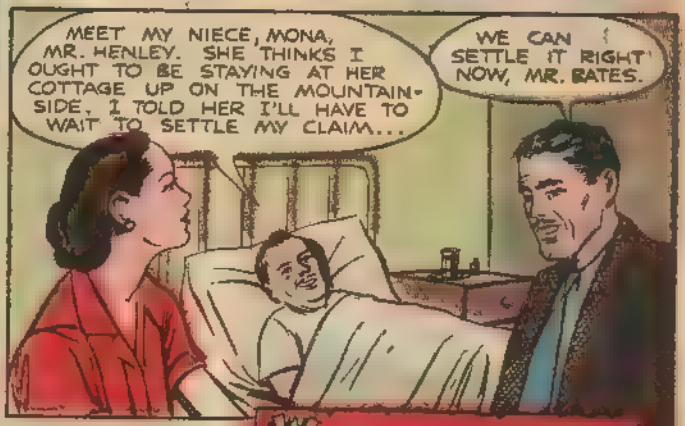
RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

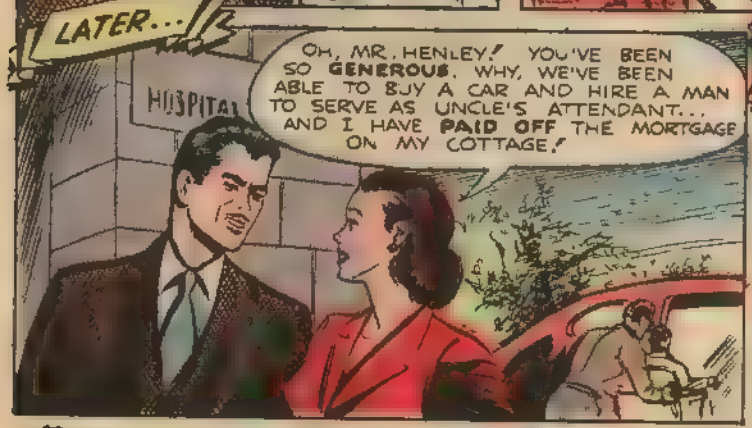
IT WAS JUST TOO DREADFUL! THE POOR MAN HADN'T A CHANCE YOU SAW THE WHOLE THING TOO!
YES HE HADN'T A CHANCE IT WAS DREADFUL!
IT WAS ALL THE BUS DRIVER'S FAULT HE JUST MOWED THE GUY DOWN! YOU'VE GOT TO BE BLIND TO DRIVE A BUS IN THIS TOWN!
THE POOR MAN HADN'T A CHANCE! I SAW THE WHOLE THING
WHY, YOU JUST MOWED THE GUY DOWN!
YOU MUST BE BLIND OR YOU WOULDN'T HAVE GOT YOUR JOB!
THERE GOES OUR PAL ON ANOTHER RIDE, MONA!
HERE'S HOPING HE HITS ANOTHER JACKPOT, HAPPY!
AS THE DAYS PASSED, NOBODY AT THE GALEN HOSPITAL REALIZED THAT AN ACCIDENT VICTIM LISTED AS J.B. BATES WAS ALSO KNOWN AS "BROADWAY" BARTON...
I'M WALT HENLEY, OF THE ALLIED CASUALTY COMPANY. HOW'S OUR PATIENT DOING?
IF YOU REFER TO J. B BATES, HE'S LIKELY TO BE YOUR PATIENT FOR A LONG TIME! YOU'LL FIND HIM IN 608.
HELLO, MR HENLEY! WISH I COULD SHAKE HANDS WITH YOU BUT I STILL CAN'T MOVE MY RIGHT ARM! DOC DUDLEY CAN TELL YOU ALL ABOUT IT
YES I'LL TELL HIM ALL ABOUT IT

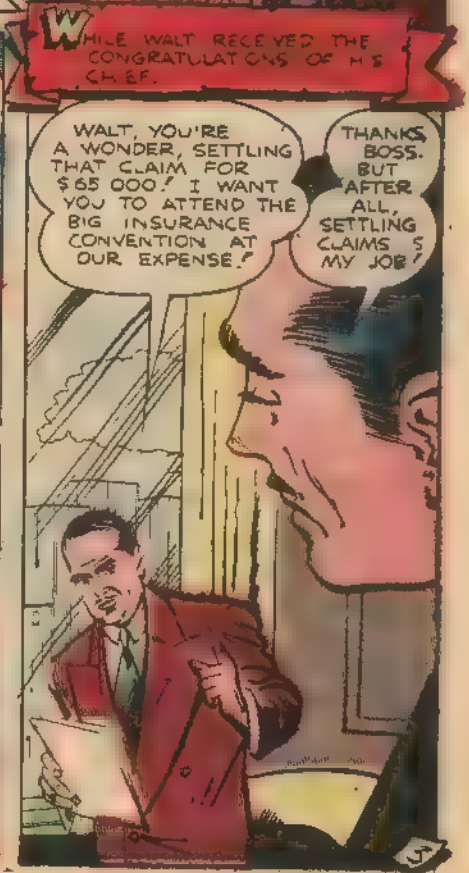
RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

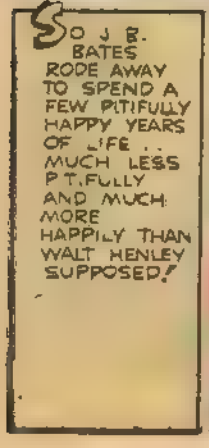
TOO BAD ABOUT BATES' ARM...
IT'S MORE THAN HIS ARM. HIS WHOLE SIDE SEEMS PARALYZED THE X RAY SHOWS AN OLD HIP FRACTURE AGGRAVATED BY HIS RECENT ACCIDENT!

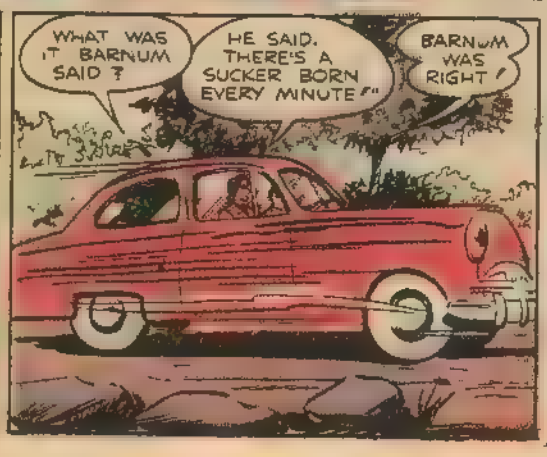

WITH THESE X-RAYS AND THE WAY THE WITNESSES ALL SIDE WITH BATES, HE WILL COLLECT $150,000 IF HIS CASE EVER GETS TO COURT!
LEAVE IT TO ME BOSS. I'LL FLAG IT BEFORE IT GOES THAT FAR!


MEET MY NIECE, MONA, MR. HENLEY. SHE THINKS I OUGHT TO BE STAYING AT HER COTTAGE UP ON THE MOUNTAIN-SIDE. I TOLD HER I'LL HAVE TO WAIT TO SETTLE MY CLAIM...
WE CAN SETTLE IT RIGHT NOW, MR. BATES.


LATER...
HOSPITAL
OH, MR. HENLEY! YOU'VE BEEN SO GENEROUS. WHY, WE'VE BEEN ABLE TO BUY A CAR AND HIRE A MAN TO SERVE AS UNCLE'S ATTENDANT... AND I HAVE PAID OFF THE MORTGAGE ON MY COTTAGE!


WHILE WALT RECEIVED THE CONGRATULATIONS OF HIS CHIEF.
WALT, YOU'RE A WONDER, SETTLING THAT CLAIM FOR $65 000! I WANT YOU TO ATTEND THE BIG INSURANCE CONVENTION AT OUR EXPENSE!
THANKS BOSS. BUT AFTER ALL, SETTLING CLAIMS IS MY JOB!
3


SO J. B. BATES RODE AWAY TO SPEND A FEW PITIFULLY HAPPY YEARS OF LIFE .. MUCH LESS P.T.FULLY AND MUCH MORE HAPPILY THAN WALT HENLEY SUPPOSED!



RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

AT THE CONVENTION
NOW ONLY LAST WEEK ALDEN I SETTLED A CASE FOR $65 000 WHICH WAS FAIR TO EVERYBODY. THE VICTIM WAS PERMANENTLY DISABLED, BUT I FOUND WHAT IT WOULD COST FOR HIM TO LIVE COMFORTABLY AND I SET THE FIGURE ACCORDINGLY
I KNOW, HENLEY. TAKE A CASE I HANDLED A FEW YEARS AGO...
"IT WAS WHERE A CAR WAS FORCED OFF THE ROAD BY A BIG INTERSTATE TRUCK THAT WAS HIGHTAILING IT AROUND A CURVE ON THE WRONG SIDE OF A WHITE LINE..."
"...THERE WAS ONLY ONE MAN IN THE CAR HIS NAME WAS R N BABSON AND AT FIRST NOBODY THOUGHT HE WAS HURT TOO BADLY..."
TAKE IT EASY... MY HIP, IT'S KIND OF SORE... LIKE IT WAS SPRAINED...
BUT ACCORDING TO EYE-WITNESSES THE TRUCK DRIVER WAS 100% WRONG... SO WHEN BABSON'S RIGHT SIDE BECAME PARALYZED, WE SETTLED FAST
"...AND I THINK WE GOT OFF CHEAP AT $50 000.. BUT ALL THE POOR FELLOW WANTED WAS A HOUSE ON THE MOUNTAINSIDE WHERE HE COULD LOOK AT THE WORLD..."
YOU KNOW, HENLEY I'VE OFTEN WANTED TO LOOK UP THAT CHEERFUL CHAP, BABSON..
YOU MEAN BATES. THIS SOUNDS LIKE THE CLAIM I SETTLED LAST WEEK!
IT WAS ALL THE TRUCKER'S FAULT, RUNNING THE GUY OFF THE ROAD!
THE POOR MAN HADN'T A CHANCE!
YOU'RE BOTH RIGHT!
WELL, MR BABSON, WITH A MAN TO WHEEL YOU AROUND AND YOUR STEP-DAUGHTER TO KEEP HOUSE, THINGS AREN'T TOO BAD...
WE'RE SO, SO, GRATEFUL!

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

LATER THAT DAY...
IN EACH CASE, THERE WAS A MAN AND WOMAN ON THE SCENE WHO INFLUENCED THE OTHER WITNESSES, BUT NEVER SHOWED UP TO TESTIFY THEMSELVES.
THAT WAS ONE REASON, MR REEVES, WHY I SETTLED THE TRUCK CLAIM SO QUICKLY.
... AND I DID THE SAME WITH THE BUS CLAIM. NOW WE THINK THE SAME TWO PEOPLE ARE LIVING WITH BABSON..OR BATES..
AS PRESIDENT OF ALLIED CASUALTY, I CAN'T DO A THING WITHOUT MORE EVIDENCE. OUR OWN DOCTORS APPROVED THOSE CLAIMS, BUT THE LAW SHOULD KNOW OF THIS.
THAT'S HOW AND WHY RAY ALDEN AND WALT HENLEY CLAIM AGENTS FOR ALLIED CASUALTY CAME TO MY OFFICE.
WE'RE POSITIVE, INSPECTOR, THAT THIS FELLOW IS REALLY CRIPPLED OR ELSE HE'S A GREAT ACTOR...
THIS HAS A FAMILIAR RING WAIT UNTIL I CHECK MY FILES.
HERE'S A CHARACTER CALLED BROADWAY BARTON... AS MUCH A FREAK AS A CRIPPLE COULD THROW HIS HIP OUT OF JOINT, CONTORTIONIST STYLE. BUT WE NEVER BOOKED HIM FOR MORE THAN DISORDERLY CONDUCT.. BEGGING ON THE STREET..
I'LL BET HE'S OUR MAN! IF THERE'S ANY WAY I CAN EXPOSE THAT PHONEY...
THERE MIGHT BE NOW LISTEN CAREFULLY..
WALT HENLEY LISTENED AND LOST NO TIME IN FOLLOWING MY SUGGESTIONS A FEW DAYS LATER HE WAS ALL SET...
HERE'S THE VERY ONE YOU WANT, SIR. WITH A TELESCOPIC LENS..
FINE I'LL TAKE IT.

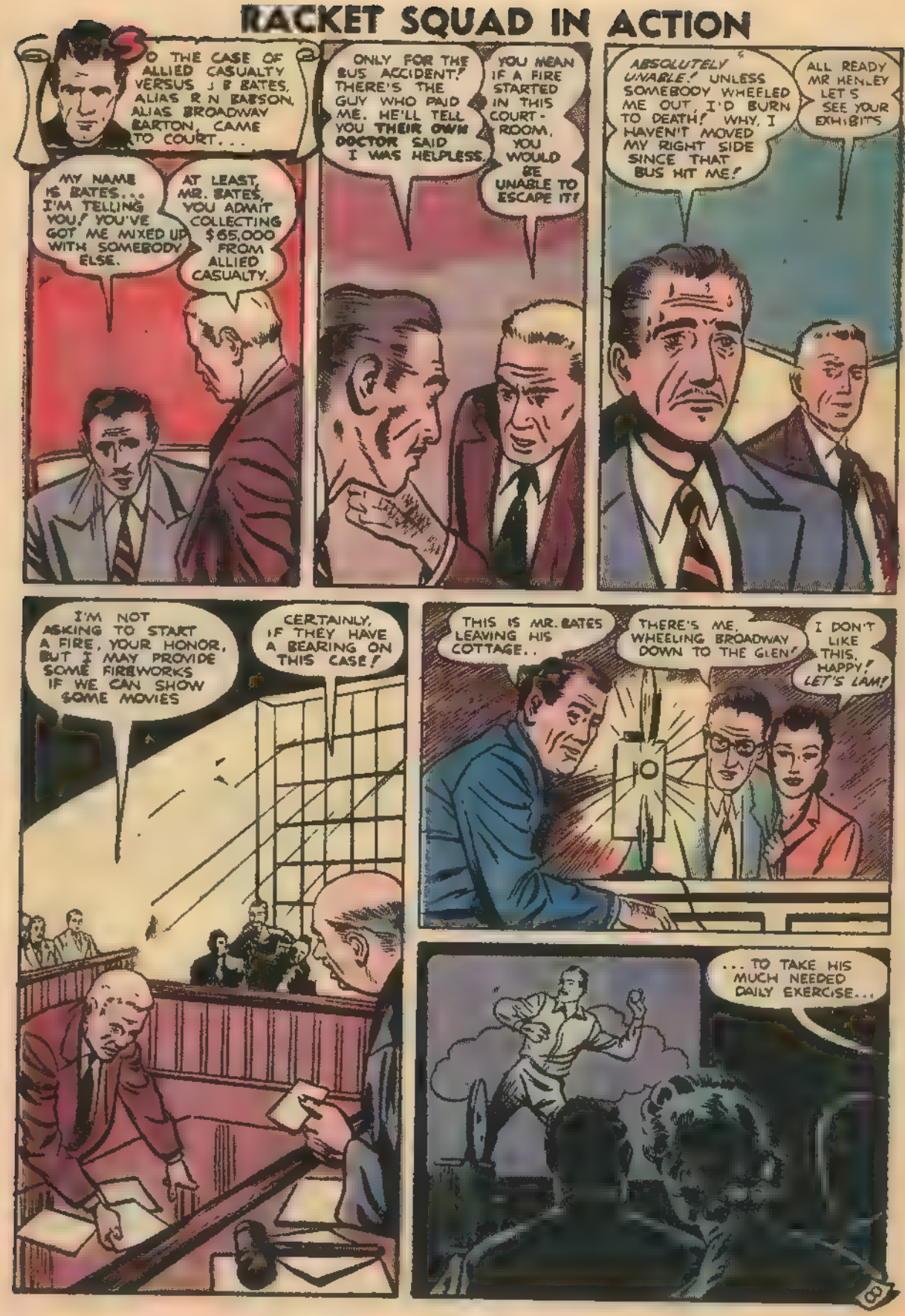
RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

YOU MAY THINK THIS IS WONDERFUL [illegible] TO PEDDLING PENCILS, [illegible]ADWAY, BUT WHEN ARE WE GOING TO GO PLACES ... SUCH AS PARIS LIKE YOU PROMISED?
VERY SOON, MONA, MY DEAR .. THERE'S HAPPY CALLING FROM THE LOOKOUT ANSWER IT
TELL BROADWAY I JUST SAW A CAR SWING UP THE MOUNTAIN ROAD IT MAY BE COMING HERE
ALL RIGHT, HAPPY. I'LL TELL HIM
NO FURTHER SIGN OF ANY CAR!
I KNOW! BUT WE CAN'T BE TOO CAREFUL! YOU'D BETTER RELIEVE HAPPY A WHILE SO HE CAN WHEEL ME AROUND
A PLACE TO PARK AT LAST!
BUT I BET IF I POKE MY NOSE OUT OF THE WOODS THEY LL SPOT ME FROM THAT COTTAGE!
HERE'S A BREAK! OUR MR BATES AND THE TRAINED SEAL HE HIRED. IF I CAN GET A NICE LONG RANGE SHOT...
THIS WILL DO, HAPPY! ONLY MONA CAN SEE US HERE. DID YOU BRING THE BALL?
RIGHT HERE, BROADWAY!

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

THIS SURE IS THE WAY TO KEEP THE OLD THROWING ARM IN TRIM BETWEEN TIMES!
WHAT'S THE MATTER, BROADWAY? BUTTER FINGERS?
NO. MONA'S WIGWAGGING US I FORGOT THAT HICK DOCTOR WAS COMING TO GIVE ME TREATMENTS TODAY.
WE'LL GET UP THERE AND PUT ON THE OLD ACT. A MONTH MORE WILL BE ENOUGH.
HI, DOC!
THIS CLINCHES IT! NOW TO DEVELOP THESE SHOTS AND THEN CALL INSPECTOR O'MALLEY!
A FEW DAYS LATER...
SIT TIGHT, BROADWAY! HAPPY JUST CALLED FROM THE LOOKOUT SAYING SOME CARS ARE COMING UP OUR ROAD!
I HEAR THEM! NOTHING'S SUPPOSED TO BE WRONG WITH MY EARS.
A SUMMONS FOR YOU. THE ALLIED CASUALTY WANTS TO REOPEN YOUR CASE!
WHY, I'LL GET A PHYSICIAN TO PROVE MY CLAIM!
YOU WON'T NEED A DOCTOR YOU'LL NEED A LAWYER

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION


THE CASE OF ALLIED CASUALTY VERSUS J B BATES, ALIAS R N BABSON, ALIAS BROADWAY BARTON, CAME TO COURT...
MY NAME IS BATES... I'M TELLING YOU! YOU'VE GOT ME MIXED UP WITH SOMEBODY ELSE.
AT LEAST, MR. BATES, YOU ADMIT COLLECTING $65,000 FROM ALLIED CASUALTY.
ONLY FOR THE BUS ACCIDENT! THERE'S THE GUY WHO PAID ME. HE'LL TELL YOU THEIR OWN DOCTOR SAID I WAS HELPLESS.
YOU MEAN IF A FIRE STARTED IN THIS COURT-ROOM, YOU WOULD BE UNABLE TO ESCAPE IT!
ABSOLUTELY UNABLE! UNLESS SOMEBODY WHEELED ME OUT, I'D BURN TO DEATH! WHY, I HAVEN'T MOVED MY RIGHT SIDE SINCE THAT BUS HIT ME!
ALL READY MR HENLEY LET'S SEE YOUR EXHIBITS
I'M NOT ASKING TO START A FIRE, YOUR HONOR, BUT I MAY PROVIDE SOME FIREWORKS IF WE CAN SHOW SOME MOVIES
CERTAINLY, IF THEY HAVE A BEARING ON THIS CASE!
THIS IS MR. BATES LEAVING HIS COTTAGE..
THERE'S ME, WHEELING BROADWAY DOWN TO THE GLEN!
I DON'T LIKE THIS, HAPPY! LET'S LAM!
...TO TAKE HIS MUCH NEEDED DAILY EXERCISE...

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

PLEASE DON'T THINK THAT MR. BATES IS JUST A BUTTERFINGERS-
THIS IS A FAKE! I'M BEING FRAMED!
HE'S JUST SEEN HIS SO-CALLED NIECE WIGWAG FROM THE LOOK-OUT! I TOOK THIS SHOT OF THE GIRL FRIEND THROUGH A TELESCOPIC LENS...
WHILE SHE WAS SIGNALING BATES TO COME AND MEET THE LOCAL DOCTOR. THIS PICTURE ESTABLISHES THE EXACT DAY THIS ALL HAPPENED...
HOLD IT, BROADWAY! YOU'RE TOO SPRY FOR SOMEBODY WHO'S TOTALLY DISABLED!
BESIDES, HERE ARE A COUPLE OF FRIENDS WAITING FOR YOU... AND IT WOULDN'T BE FAIR TO RUN OUT ON THEM LIKE THEY TRIED TO DO ON YOU!
YES, YOUR MAN BATES IS BABSON, ALL RIGHT!
AND THEY BOTH ARE BROADWAY BARTON! AFTER TAKING THAT RUN-OUT, HE WAS THROUGH, ALONG WITH HIS ACCOMPLICES. ACCIDENTS WILL HAPPEN, YOU KNOW!
THE END

RACKET SQUAD IN ACTION

A QUICK BUCK

WATCH OUT FOR THIS AND OTHER RACKETS LIKE IT...

SORRY, SIR, I DON'T HAVE CHANGE FOR A FIVE!

I'LL SEE IF THE HOTEL DOORMAN CAN CHANGE IT FOR ME.

NO, I CAN'T CHANGE THIS FIVE, SIR, BUT HERE ARE TWO SINGLES...

GOOD. I CAN PAY OFF THE CAB WITH THOSE AND WE CAN SETTLE OUR SCORE LATER.

SO THE ARRIVING GUEST LEAVES THE $5 WITH THE DOORMAN AND PAYS OFF THE CABBY WITH THE $2.

THANKS, MISTER.

THE GUEST GOES INTO THE HOTEL, GETS A $20 BILL CHANGED BY THE CASHIER AND RETURNS...

HERE'S THE $5 SIR.. AND I ALREADY GAVE YOU $2 TO PAY THE CAB DRIVER. SO ALL YOU OWE ME IS THE DIFFERENCE...

THAT'S RIGHT. I'LL TAKE THE $5...

...AND GIVE YOU $3 TO MAKE UP THE DIFFERENCE. 2 AND 3 ARE 5...

YES.. $2 AND $3 MAKE $5.. BUT **SOMEBODY** WAS GYPPED! THE QUESTION IS: WHO... AND FOR HOW MUCH?

THE DOORMAN TRIMMED THE GUEST OUT OF A QUICK BUCK! HE GAVE THE GUEST $2 AND RECEIVED $3 IN RETURN ... TRUE, THE GUEST TOOK BACK THE $5.. **BUT IT WAS HIS ALL ALONG!** IT HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THE DEAL!

WHEN THE CAB FARE IS UNDER A BUCK, I ONLY GIVE THE SUCKER ONE DOLLAR FOR HIS FIVE! LATER HE BUYS IT BACK WITH FOUR AND THAT PUTS ME *THREE* BUCKS AHEAD!

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, AND CIRCULATION REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AS AMENDED BY THE ACTS OF MARCH 3, 1933, AND JULY 2, 1946 (39 U. S. C. 233)

Of Racket Squad In Action Comics published bi-monthly at Derby, Connecticut for October, 1952.

1. The names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:

Publisher, Ed Levy, Derby, Conn.
Editor, Burton N. Levey, Derby, Conn.
Managing Editor, Burton N. Levey, Derby, Conn.
Business Manager, John Santangelo, Derby, Conn.

2. The owner is: (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholder owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a partnership or other incorporated firm, its name and address, as well as those of each individual member, must be given.)

Capitol Stories, Inc. Derby, Conn.

Ed Levy, Derby, Conn.

John Santangelo, Derby, Conn.

Burton N. Levey, Derby, Conn.

3. The known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: None.

4. Paragraphs 2 & 3 include, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting; also the statements in the two paragraphs show the affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner.

BURTON N. LEVEY, Editor.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 5th day of Sept. 1952.
(SEAL) Edward A. Handi
Notary Public
(My commission expires Nov. 16, 1954)

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